Construction Projects Board which was constituted by Government on 20th November 1959.

(v) Ports.

1261. The Mysore Ports Department was created with effect from July 1957 for the proper administration and efficient operations of various Ports in the State under an experienced Marine Officer as the head of the Department.

1262. Since the creation of the Mysore Ports Department, the total annual cargo traffic handled at the ports has increased from 1,26,974 tons in 1956-57 to 4,04,146 tons in 1959-60.

1263. Excluding Mangalore, there are 20 Ports in the State, fifteen are in the North Kanara District and 5 in the South Kanara District. Karwar is an Intermediate Port and the remaining 19 are minor ports.

1264. At the instance of the Government of India the State Government have undertaken the survey of traffic and development potentialities of the hinterland of Mangalore and Malpe ports, through the National Council of Applied Economic Research, New Delhi, at a cost of Rs. 25,000 in connection with the development of an all-weather Port with alongside berthing facilities in the region.

1265. With a view to formulating a long term policy for development of several ports in the State, the traffic survey of Karwar, Honavar and Coondapur ports at a cost of Rs. 20,000 was entrusted to the National Council of Applied Economic Research, New Delhi, to assess the traffic potential with reference to the hinterland for their intensive development.

1266. The Government of India constituted an expert Committee to advise on measures for the increased utilisation of inland water Transport including mover of bulk commodities from the hinterlands to the ports and *vice-versa*.

1267. The Port Department has undertaken the hydrographic survey of Sharavathi River from Honavar to Gersoppa to ascertain the feasibility of transporting heavy machinery required for the Sharavathi Hydro-Electric Project and a sub-division has been sanctioned for the execution of this work.

PUBLIC WORKS

Passenger Traffic.

1268. The weekly passenger-*cum*-cargo steamer service of the Scindia Navigation Co., Ltd., Bombay, between Bombay and Cochin was continued during the year. At Malpe, Bhatkal, Kumta and Karwar Ports 53,130 (52,151) passengers embarked and disembarked during the year. Karwar continued to record the largest number of passengers, *viz.*, 32,289 as against 33,955 in the previous year. This was due to in and out flow of Goa passengers travelling through Karwar port.

1269. *Navigation, tonnage and dues.*—During the year 866 steamers and 5,463 sailing vessels of 6,03,633 and 2,02,427 tons respectively entered the ports in the State (except Mangalore) as against 1,115 steamers and 4,839 sailing vessels of 4,46,455-44 and 1,82,953-47 tons respectively that entered during the previous year. A total sum of Rs. 78,144·75 (Rs. 58,825·43) was collected as port dues.

Trade.

1270. A total quantity of 54,090 (62,441) tons of cargo was imported and 3,50,056 (2,17,660) tons exported through the ports in Mysore State (except Mangalore). A quantity of 1,46,604 (80,852) tons of iron ore and 6,790 (1,000) tons of groundnut extraction were exported through the Karwar port, while 1,00,972 tons of iron ore were exported through Belekeri port. A sum of Rs. 3,14,610-56 (Rs. 63,348-39) was collected during the year as landing, shipping and storage fees on import and export of cargo.

1271. The total receipts and charges of the department during the year were Rs. 4,02,294-27 and Rs. 4,13,595-78 respectively.